

PRESS RELEASE

Bluegrass on Ballard Rocks Downtown Wylie July 1

Wylie, Texas, May 22, 2017 – Wylie will be wide awake July 1 when the City of Wylie, Wylie Downtown Merchants Association, and Bluegrass Heritage Foundation present the fifth annual Bluegrass on Ballard in historic downtown Wylie. This year's festival promises to be bigger and better than previous years, which brought thousands of citizens and visitors from throughout the state and beyond.

The free event begins at 10 am with over 100 booths featuring art, crafts, unique items and other vendors in Olde City Park, sponsored by the City of Wylie Public Arts Board, and pony rides, from 10 am to 2 pm, sponsored by North Texas Equestrian Society. The 200-vehicle car show goes from 4 to 9 pm. The American Legion's Chili Cook-off will start at 2 pm and last until 5 or until all the chili is gone.

Music is the star of the event. Starting at 3 pm, this year's lineup includes top bluegrass bands Phil Ferguson & Texas True, Robertson County Line, Bethlehem Bluegrass Band, Texas & Tennessee, Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Bluegrass Band, and Becky Buller Band. New this year, the stage will be in shady Olde City Park, so bring a lawn chair and plan to stay all evening. In addition to a variety of food vendors, Ballard Avenue restaurants will be open for business, along with the many shops.

Musicians of all skill levels are invited to bring their instruments downtown and pick and jam with other musicians on the street and in shops and restaurants.

Bluegrass on Ballard is the updated July Jubilee street dance, an event that celebrated its 28th anniversary last summer. For more information on Bluegrass on Ballard, visit WylieTexas.gov/Bluegrass or call 972-516-6016.

Bands schedule

3:00 – 3:45 pm Phil Ferguson & Texas True

3:55 – 4:40 pm Robertson County Line

5:00 – 5:45 pm Bethlehem Bluegrass Band

5:55 - 6:40 pm Texas & Tennessee

7:00 – 8:15 pm Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Bluegrass Band

8:30 - 9:45 pm Becky Buller Band

Activities schedule

10 am – 9 pm Arts and Crafts 10 am – 2 pm Pony Rides 2 – 5 pm Chili Cook-off 3 – 10 pm Bluegrass Bands

4-9 pm Car Show

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About Wylie – Incorporated in 1887, the City of Wylie is located just 24 miles from downtown Dallas in Collin, Dallas and Rockwall counties. Possessing an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, an ISO #1 rating and an expanding business climate, Wylie (population 48,000) is one of the fastest-growing communities in the state of Texas with a 220-percent increase since 2000. In 2015, Money Magazine named Wylie the 25th Best Place to Live in the Country, and financial website NerdWallet named Wylie the Best Small City for Young Families in August 2016. Realtor.com named Wylie the second hottest suburb in the country in February 2017.